Economic Conference.

41. The Standing Committee of the Economic Conference held 9 meetings during the year at which the progress made by the Central Committees was reviewed and several important schemes were considered. *General Organisation.*

The District Committees met regularly and showed greater activity than in former years. The District Economic Superintendents were instrumental in enlisting the co-operation of the general public in the Conference work and helping them to start industries and agricultural developments. A mass of useful information and statistics relating to the districts were also collected by the Superintendents.

The formation of Progress Committees has been completed in all the taluks of the State and instructions defining their work have been issued.

A scheme for the appointment of Honorary Supervisors has been sanctioned in order to popularise Conference work in the taluks through non-official agency.

42. In my speech at the last session of the Conference, I referred in detail to the activities of the three Central Committees of the Conference and it is unnecessary to go over the same ground again. I shall only touch on a few salient features of the work done by the Committees. *Work of the Committees.*

43. Sericulture continued to receive the attention of the Agricultural Committee till the arrival of Signor Mari when the work was placed directly under him. The Committee devoted particular attention to the encouragement of fruit culture and the scheme submitted by them has been tentatively sanctioned. *Agricultural Committee.*

44. The main questions which engaged the attention of the Education Committee were the preparation of a scheme for agricultural instruction in rural schools, the opening of commercial classes in taluk stations, the extension of the scheme of rural libraries and the development of the public libraries in Bangalore and Mysore. The Committee have been entrusted with the work of starting special classes for industrial and other subjects with the aid of a special Government grant. *Education Committee.*

45. The Industries and Commerce Committee continued investigations regarding the manufacture of soap, tiles, paper pulp, wood distillation, etc. They also co-operated in the formation of a Chamber of Commerce *Industries and Commerce Committee.*

which has had a successful start under the guidance of Mr. W. C. Rose, its first President. A Home Industries Institute has been established and is working under the direction of the Chairman of the Education Committee.

Units of Work

46. In order that economic activities may be organised uniformly and on a more systematic basis, a scheme has been prepared under which the State is divided into 100 unit areas, consisting of the several taluks, the two cities of Mysore and Bangalore and certain important towns. The taluk units were required to select places and persons for carrying on individual items of work. Arrangements on these lines have been completed in respect of 62 units and steps are being taken to bring the remaining units shortly under the operation of the scheme.

7.—Technical Departments.

Public Works.

47. The total expenditure on public works from all sources, including local funds, amounted to about Rs. 66½ lakhs during the year as against Rs. 70¼ lakhs in the preceding year. This expenditure is made up of Rs. 39¼ lakhs on ordinary public and local fund works and Rs. 27¼ lakhs on the Cauvery Reservoir and channels.

Storage Works.

48. The Cauvery Reservoir dam has now risen to a height of 60 feet in the river bed and 75 feet at the flanks. The storage available at present is sufficient to guarantee the supply of 9,321 electric H.P. to the Kolar Gold Mines under the first three installations and of about 5,000 H.P. under the fourth installation. As a result of the construction of the dam an additional revenue of Rs. 5,69,800 has been secured, partly on account of the higher rates charged for electric power in view of the guaranteed supply, and partly on account of additional supply of power made available with the aid of the reservoir. An annual expenditure of about Rs. 50,000 for conservancy operations in connection with the power works has been saved and the development of sugar cane cultivation under the existing canals has been rendered possible. The outlay on the construction of the dam